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On the Ten Mindpowers

Extracts from Fr. Constance's Notebooks, 1843

Ten powers of the mind, dear Reader, and each a rung on the ladder to Turiya, that is, the nameless Fourth State of Being.

Of these Ten Powers, I speak to you of only Nine, for the Tenth, is your proper Soule and it falls not to me to whisper your own dark secrets to you. Remember only this: that if you dare to confront Astaroth without the Nine, even the Tenth shall be taken from you!

LEVITATION

'She is aduan'st Aboue the Cloudes, as high as Heauen it selfe...' Romeo and Juliet, IV.v.74

Seek ye first the power of levitation, without which none can rise from the depths of ignorance and folly. This attainment is but a symptom of a deeper, inner peace in which the soul's burden of grief is lifted through witness to the Truth. Thus enlightened, the seeker rises upon a cloud of unknowing towards Heaven.

Be warned, however, that the innocent are always victims to the ungodly. The extreme purity of soul required to raise a man's body engenders in the seeker a feeling of divine bliss that he cannot help but witness with all his being. Thus rapt in self-concentration, the seeker remains oblivious to the grosser aspects of reality and may look neither to left or to right — an obvious risk to his well-being when all around him is ravenous, hostile, and of diabolical origin. If the skies are truly your destination, haste yrself there and do not tarry on the way.

Note also that progress toward heaven is not always unimpeded, however clear and welcoming the Path may seem. In certain caverns, of which even the initiated speak with terror, no man may rise above his troubles without paying with his life. Blame not the way of the world for this, but seek within yrself.

TRANSMIGRATION

'Imagining, as did Pythagoras, the transmigration of men's soules Into other creatures.' Anon, 1634

Ah! This divine gift of learning! Confuse not this subtle art with the lowly art of teleportation, in which the initiate merely moves his corporeal essence from one location to another. Such parlour tricks impress the young, but only until the foolish practitioner teleports himself into some immoveable — or possibly hungry — obstruction. Then all is lost....

Transmigration involves not movement, but Death and Rebirth. It is therefore a perfect reflection of the Truth, as are all the Virtuous Mindpowers of the Central Path. The seeker must first locate a Crystal Lotus and then, having cultivated this great skille, by a great act of will he sublimates his physical body and scatters its component atomes to the winds. For a brief moment his aura flickers in the surrounding air, before it is grasped by the hungry lotus. Then, unseen to the naked eye, the seeker conducts a life-and-death struggle of will with the plante's predatory soul. This conflict forces the violent vegetable to materialise upon another plane, whereupon the seeker promptly escapes and reconstructs his physical frame by reference to the Akashic Records. In this manner, the initiate moves from plane to plane within the multiverse, by offering himself as a sacrifice and then rising anew from the ordeal.

PYROKINETICS

'His left hand... did flame like Twentie torches'

There comes a time when the seeker, burning with enthusiasm for the Inner Search, can no longer contain his joy at the prospect of Union with the Beloved. His hands tremble with vibrant energy and scatter aethereal flame in all directions.

Such energy can be put to use in grilling the ungodly. When an initiate reaches the Fourth Stage of Knowledge, he may, through an extreme effort of will, control the Fire of Belonging and send it in coruscating boules of flame straight at the nearest representative of Lucifer. Be warned that such measures severely drain the spirit of the seeker, and he may not fashion such fire-bolts in hasty repetition. Choose carefully, therefore, the moment for action and remember that those who are themselves of fiery nature will laugh at such antics. For them, other means of punishment are required...

Note that when confronting certain demonic creations, fire may destroy them, but only once they have been subdued by other means. Remember that Lucifer has the power to recreate any creature not totally vanquished by the fires of innocence.

TELEPATHY

'Our superiors are guided by intuition, and our inferiors by instinct.' Addison

If you watch a flock of birds against the horizon, you will see them twist and turn in their thousands as if bent by a single will. The intuitive, telepathic power that enables animals and birds to sense the movements and directions of others is the basis of this mindpower, referred to cryptically by followers of the Central Path as 'The Eye of the Beast.'

In darkness or in light, whether on the Lefthand, the Righthand, or the Central Path, the Eye of the Beast will always turn to the light, be it the light of transformation through mindpower, or the glimmer of a Crystal Lotus. Be sure to make good use of the Eye at all times to avoid unnecessary risk. The Eye may also give you an indication of which mindpower is closest to your grasp, as well as its direction.

Use this power well, for, though it cost you much to attain, it will save you far more in practice.

MEDITATION

'The innermost core fulfils you totally, absolutely. Reaching it is the purpose of meditation.' Osho Raineesh

The jewel in Bhodhisattva's crown! This is indeed the most powerful of mindpowers, practice of which makes more than perfect. At the Sixth Stage of Knowledge, the initiate is able at last to gaze upon his own Dark Side, normally shunned by those who sleep in the lower levels of consciousness. By looking steadfastly upon his weaknesses, his vices, his impotence, the initiate becomes privy to the Great Secret — that to be weak is to be strong, to be last is to be first, and finally, that Not to Be is To Be...

Indeed, so sacred is this art that to call it mindpower is to profane it. It is a gift from existence. Only discover it, and you are reborn. Remember, however, that the ungodly will not respect your meditations one jot. You have been warned.

CRYOGENETICS

'A tale whose lightest word would freeze thy young blood' Hamlet, I.v.16

By this stage, the initiate is entering the area of experience which mystics call 'the long dark night of the Soul'. In this period of learning, the seeker is confronted by horrors that would freeze the blood of a phoenix rising from the fire. The sun of the spirit is quenched, the air grows chill and dank, and within the initiate a terrible battle between Light and Darkness grows ever nearer. What, in this terrible confusion, can be done?

The true follower of the Central Path knows that even confusion and chaos are illusions. Seizing the energy of his own doubts and fears, he channels it into natural forms of ice and shadow, and then hurls the materialised negative energies against the Adversary. Thus, out of weakness, is born the strength to proceed with the Quest.

Although Ice soon returns to its watery state, it can nevertheless deal a fiercesome blow against those who place their faith in fire alone. Do not, however, allow this new found mindpower to go to your head: you will still require the cleansing power of flame at frequent intervals during your quest.

TELEKINESIS

'O perlur'd woman, thou do'st stone my soul'

Shakespeare

Now is the time of union fast approaching. As if on a slope headlong to destruction, or to salvation, the initiate plunges onward to confront Astaroth. Every sinew of his body sings in unison as his body and soul are thrust ever onward by the power of the Inner Eye. No longer driven by desire, but by destiny, the seeker is approaching the sought.

At this stage, the motive power of the initiate can be transferred to other objects. Whole mountains can be dislodged without so much as a blink in their direction. Rivers may be scoured out of the dusty earth, the spring tides held in abeyance, even the phases of the moon forced into unnatural sequence. At this time, the most demonic opponents manifest themselves, but none can withstand the forces set in motion by the seeker.

Telekinesis, however, remains a 'gross mindpower', that is, of the earth and not of the more subtle air energies. This means that the seeker would do well to supplement the powers of motive force with those of a more fiery nature where circumstances, or demons, permit.

SHAPESHIFTING

'I was shapen In wickedness...' Psalms 51:5

In the moments before Union and final Transformation, the seeker's eyes are opened and he is no longer bound by time or place. In a blinding flash, he sees himself in thousands upon thousands of incarnations, as he pursues his own destiny through countless lives and epochs.

Neither is he man alone. In the earliest stages of soul development he crawls on the earth, creeps in the forest, swims in the sea, and flies in the air. This experience, hidden deep within the memory of his immortal soul, becomes available to higher grade initiates. In the final moments of the Quest, where man cannot go, his forebears may...

This level of self-awareness and the direct remembrance of the oft-repeated death experience, hardens the seeker to the superficial attractions of external reality and drives him to seek new, inner solutions to his problems. If the instinctive knowledge of bird and beast is drawn upon, man may rise above the darkest dilemmas.

NIGHTVISION

By the Cloud of Unknowing, raised:
Over the Crystal Lotus, victorious;
Through sincerity, aflame;
By the Eye of the Beast, guided;
In meditation, blessed;
From evil, icepower;
In movement, all-moving;
Through destiny's different forms, reborn;
Then at last,
In darkness... Light!
... and once armed with Light, let the
Last Battle against Astaroth commence!